

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

ISHIHARA et al.

Atty. Ref.: 3917-4

Serial No. 09/866,541

Group: 3714

Filed: May 29, 2001

Examiner: C. Coburn

For: GAME SYSTEM USING GAME CARDS AND GAME MACHINE

June 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

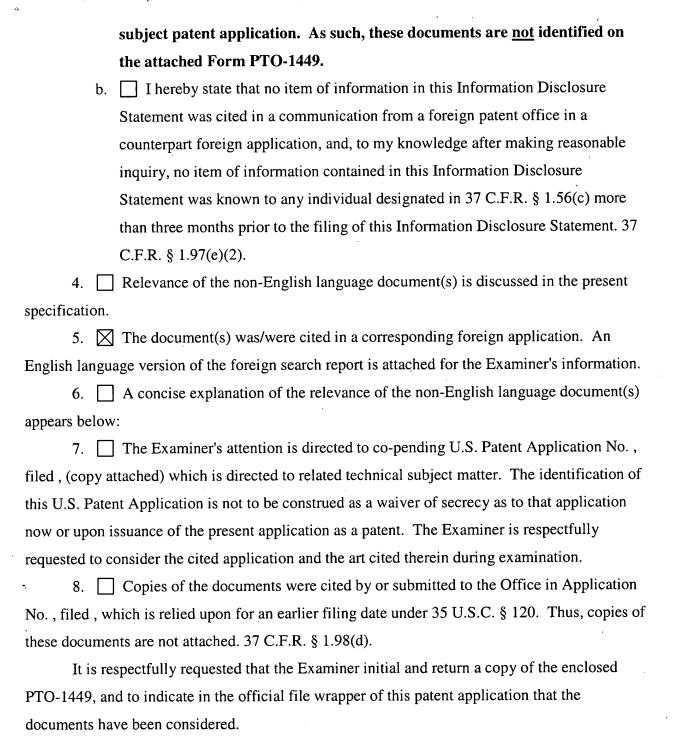
1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement

06/12/2003 SDENBOB1 00000059 09866541

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required. In the event, a first Office Action has been mailed prior to filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Office is requested to treat the present paper s a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose.

- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
 - a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 - b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
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 - a. \(\subseteq \) I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information
 Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent
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 filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 Applicants note that USPs 5,959,281 and 5,411,259 cited in the

communication from the foreign patent office are already of record in the



The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 referencing docket number 3917-4.

Respectfully submitted,

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